

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 18289 221756Z

42

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-10 EURE-00 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-05 AF-06 SAM-01 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 OMB-01

EB-07 STR-04 COME-00 CIEP-01 AID-05 SAB-01 SCCT-01

ARA-06 ERDA-05 ERDE-00 NRC-05 INT-05 EA-07 /134 W

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P R 221550Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8100

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

VV/USMISSION GENEVA 3656

USDEL SALT TWO GENEVA

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL MUNICH

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION USUN

USIA WASHDC

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PAGE 02 MOSCOW 18289 221756Z

CINCEUR

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CINCEUR FOR POLAD

USIA FOR IBS, IEE, IPS, IOP/M

GENEVA PLS PROTECT TO SALT

1. SUMMARY. SOVIET PRESS HIGHLIGHTS:

- THE U.S. HAS BECOME, IN THE OPINION OF THE SOVIET PRESS, THE NUMBER ONE CULPRIT IN ANGOLA; AND IZVESTIYA CHARACTERIZES THE PRESIDENT'S REMARKS ON ANGOLA AS "UNFRIENDLY TOWARD THE SOVIET UNION" (SEPTTEL);
- PRAVDA AND THREE OTHER PAPERS LAUNCH ATTACKS ON AMBASSADOR MOYNIHAN (SEPTTEL);
- IZVESTIYA SAYS RELATIVELY KIND WORDS ABOUT CONGRESSIONAL CUTBACKS IN DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS;
- PRAVDA COMMENTS BRIEFLY ON MBFR, ASSERTING AGREEMENT ACHIEVABLE, BUT WITH CONDITION THAT PRESENT BALANCE OF FORCES NOT BE CHANGED;
- COVERAGE OF THE CIEC IN PARIS HIGHLIGHTS DISCORD, SAYS THE SECRETARY "AGAIN THREATENED" THE THIRD WORLD WITH SANCTIONS;
- COVERAGE ON THE MIDDLE EAST INCLUDES STANDARD CRITICISM OF ISRAEL AND REPORT (SEPTTEL) ON VISIT HERE BY THE NATIONAL FRONT FOR THE LIBERATION OF PALESTINE;
- PRAVDA ANNOUNCES KOSYGIN TO VISIT TURKEY THE END OF DECEMBER;
- AND PRAVDA COYLY DEMONSTRATES THAT HANOI IS FOLLOWING MOSCOW, NOT PEKING, ON RELATIONS WITH CHILE.

END SUMMARY.

1. U.S. IZVESTIYA DEC 19 IN SIGNED COMMENTARY SAYS THAT CONGRESS, IN "GREAT DEBATE", "TO CERTAIN DEGREE" REFLECTED PUBLIC MOOD IN TAKING "SOBER APPROACH" TO DEFENSE SPENDING, WITH BOTH HOUSES "NOTICEABLY" CUTTING DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS. "THE INSTABLE APPETITES OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 MOSCOW 18289 221756Z

AMERICAN MILITARISTS HAVE BEEN TEMPORARILY LIMITED." PRAVDA DEC 22 REPORTS "UNUSAL PERIODIC" U.S. NUCLEAR WEAPONS TEST IN NEVADA.

2. MBFR. PRAVDA'S DEC 21 WEEKLY REVIEW DISCUSSION OF WARSAW PACT FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING IN MOSCOW DEC 15-16 SUGGESTS THAT MBFR (I.E., "PRACTICAL STEPS IN SLOWING THE ARMS RACE" IN EUROPE) MAY WELL HAVE BEEN

ONE OF MAIN TOPICS. SAME COMMENTARY SAYS REGARDLESS OF COMPLEXITY OF THESE TALKS, THE GOAL IS A "REAL AND ACHIEVABLE" ONE, ESPECIALLY AFTER THE "GREAT SUCCESS" OF CSCE. COMMENTARY CONTINUES THAT SUCH PROGRESS DEMANDS FULL OBSERVANCE OF PRINCIPLE OF NON-DIMINUTION OF SECURITY OF ANY STATE. THIS IN TURN REQUIRES CESSATION OF EFFORTS TO CHANGE BALANCE OF FORCES. COMMENTARY SAYS THAT "SUCH A STAGE OF UNDERSTANDING HAS NOT YET BEEN REACHED." COMMENT. THE COMMENTARY MAKES NO MENTION OF OPTION III, THOUGH IMPLIES THAT IT IS PART AND PARCEL OF EARLIER ATTEMPTS TO ALTER THE EXISTING BALANCE. END COMMENT.

3. PARIS - CIEC. SOVIET PRESS COMMENTARY ON CIEC CONTINUES TO EMPHASIZE DISCORD AND BELITTLE ACHIEVEMENT. PRAVDA DEC 20 SAYS THAT NOT EVEN THE BASIC GOAL OF THE MEETING--DEFINITION OF STATUS AND FUNCTION OF THE FOUR COMMISSIONS --WAS REACHED. PRAVDA'S WEEKLY REVIEW DEC 21 ACCUSES U.S. AND WESTERN EUROPE OF TRYING TO GAIN "UNOBSTRUCTED ACCESS" TO RESOURCES OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES ON BASIS OF UNEQUAL TERMS OF TRADE. SAME COMMENTARY SAYS SECRETARY KISSINGER "AGAIN THREATENED, IN A THINLY VEILED FASHION, POSSIBLE ECONOMIC SANCTIONS." SEPARATE SIGNED COMMENTARY PRAVDA DEC 21 EMPHASIZES THAT WEST HAS ESTABLISHED THE CIEC FORUM TO AVOID THE UNGA, WHERE ITS AIMS OF ECONOMIC EXPLOITATION WOULD BE EASILY THWARTED. THE COMMENTARY CONTINUES THAT INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC PROBLEMS CAN ONLY BE DECIDED IF ALL INTERESTED STATES PARTICIPATE. COMMENT. COMMENTARY EDGES TOWARD IMPLICATION THAT THE SOVIET UNION ITSELF EITHER SHOULD, OR WOULD LIKE TO, PARTICIPATE IN THE DECISIONS NOW BEING TAKEN IN THIS FRAMEWORK. END COMMENT.

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PAGE 04 MOSCOW 18289 221756Z

4. MIDDLE EAST. SPARSE COVERAGE OF MIDDLE EAST OVER THE WEEKEND INCLUDES SIGNED COMMENTARY IN PRAVDA DEC 22 PRAISING UNGA RESOLUTION CONDEMNING ISRAELI EXPANSIONISM. COMMENTARY NOTES ISRAELI RELIANCE ON "ENORMOUS" AID FROM "ACROSS THE OCEAN" AND ACCUSES ISRAEL OF USING THE STEP-BY-STEP PROCESS TO FREEZE THE OCCUPIED STATUS OF ARAB LANDS. THE COMMENTARY REPEATS STANDARD SOVIET FORMULATIONS FOR SOLUTION OF THE AREA'S PROBLEMS.

5. TURKEY. PRAVDA DEC 21 ANNOUNCES KOSYGIN WILL MAKE OFFICIAL VISIT TO TURKEY THE END OF DECEMBER IN CONNECTION WITH THE OPENING OF THE ISKENDERUN METALLURGICAL COMPLEX.

6. CHINA/CHILE. PRAVDA DEC 21 CARRIES A TASS ITEM
DATELINED HANOI REPLAYING NORTH VIENAMESE PRESS
CRITICISM OF THE PINOCHET REGIME AND OF U.S.
INTERFERENCE IN CHILEAN AFFAIRS. COMMENT: POINT OF
HANOI-DATELINED ITEM ON CHILE IS OBVIOUSLY TO SHOW
THAT NORTH VIETNAM IS FOLLOWING THE SOVIET--NOT THE
CHINESE--LINE ON CHILE.
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